

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 198956
ORIGIN STR-04

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PA-02 AID-05 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01
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DRAFTED BY STR - STEVE LANDE
APPROVED BY EB/OT/GCP - H KOPP
EA/EP - A GEBER
NEA/INS - J GRAHAME
NEA/EGY - C KENNEDY

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R 200405Z AUG 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY CAIRO

UNCLAS STATE 198956

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS ON MTN

1. TRADE POLICY OFFICIALS FROM STR AND STATE WOULD LIKE
TO HOLD TECHNICAL CONSULTATIONS ON THE MTN WITH ASEAN
COUNTRIES, INDIA AND EGYPT PARALLEL TO OR SOON AFTER
THE US-ASEAN ECONOMIC CONSULTATIONS IN MANILA ON
SEPTEMBER 8. THE PURPOSE OF THESE CONSULTATIONS WOULD BE
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PAGE 02 STATE 198956

TO REVIEW WITH KEY GOVERNMENT TRADE OFFICIALS THE PRESENT
SITUATION IN THE MTN AND TO OBTAIN THEIR SUPPORT FOR
RAPID PROGRESS IN THE MTN. AS EMBASSIES AWARE, AGREEMENT
IN GENEVA PROVIDES FOR ACCELERATED WORK PROGRAM THAT WOULD
LEAD TO TABLING OF OFFERS IN MTN BY
JANUARY 15, 1978.

2. THE UNITED STATES HAS RECENTLY HELD CONSULTATIONS ON THE MTN WITH SWITZERLAND, CANADA, THE EC, AND THE NORDIC COUNTRIES. IN ADDITION, SIMILAR CONSULTATIONS WILL BE HELD AUGUST 22-27 WITH VARIOUS LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES. WE BELIEVE CONSULTATIONS ON THE MTN WITH THE ASEAN COUNTRIES, INDIA, AND EGYPT WOULD ALSO BE USEFUL.

3. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT RECENTLY COMPLETED A THOROUGH REVIEW OF ITS POLICIES RELATING TO THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN THE MTN, FOCUSING ON POSSIBILITIES FOR INCREASED MARKET ACCESS FOR LDC INTERESTS AND THE NEED FOR LDC CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE MTN. THE UNITED STATES WOULD LIKE TO EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH DESIGNATED COUNTRIES ON THESE ISSUES IN PARTICULAR, IN ADDITION TO OVER-ALL REVIEW OF ENTIRE SPECTRUM OF ISSUES IN THE MTN.

4. FOR ASEAN CAPITALS: IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT SEVERAL TRADE MINISTERS WILL ATTEND US-ASEAN TALKS AND THAT MTN IS ON THE AGENDA OF THESE TALKS WE ASSUME THAT ASEAN DELEGATIONS WILL INCLUDE TRADE OFFICIALS OTHER THAN MINISTERS WITH WHOM MORE DETAILED AND TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS ALONG LINES OUTLINED ABOVE COULD BE CONDUCTED EITHER DURING OR IMMEDIATELY AFTER MAIN US-ASEAN MEETING. SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT WOULD IN OUR VIEW BE MORE CONVENIENT FOR ALL CONCERNED THAN VISIT

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PAGE 03 STATE 198956

OF US TEAM TO ASEAN CAPITALS. USG TEAM WOULD BE HEADED BY ASSISTANT DEPUTY STR STEPHEN LANDE. EMBASSY MANILA SHOULD PROMPTLY SEEK REACTION OF GOP AS HOST TO MEETING. IF POSITIVE, WE PRESUME GOP WILL SEEK CONCURRENCE OTHER ASEAN MEMBERS AND MAKE ARRANGEMENTS IN CONSULTATION WITH EMBASSY. OTHER ASEAN POSTS ARE REQUESTED TO INFORM HOST GOVERNMENTS OF APPROACH TO GOP AND SEEK THEIR INFORMAL REACTIONS.

5. FOR NEW DELHI: SUGGEST WE MEET WITH SHUKLA IN NEW DELHI ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12. PLEASE ADVISE WHETHER DATE IS FEASIBLE. POSSIBILITY OF SUCH A MEETING IS BEING REVIEWED WITH INDIAN MTN DELEGATION.

6. FOR CAIRO: EGYPTIAN MTN REPRESENTATIVE HAMZA IS ACTIVE AND INFLUENTIAL IN LDC CIRCLES IN THE MTN. WE HAVE NEVER HAD A MEETING IN CAIRO WITH EGYPTIAN OFFICIALS IN CHARGE OF MTN MATTERS. IF EMBASSY CAN IDENTIFY SUCH OFFICIALS, WE WOULD LIKE TO SCHEDULE A MEETING FOR TUESDAY AFTERNOON, SEPTEMBER 13, IN CAIRO WITH SUCH OFFICIALS. PLEASE ADVISE ASAP. VANCE

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